

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 DHA-02 L-03 H-02 DEAE-00  
      SNM-02 JUSE-00 /021 W  
                              099057 /62

P 221915Z DEC 76  
FM AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1149  
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

UNCLAS HERMOSILLO 366

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CASC, MX  
SUBJECT: W/W: ARRESTS: HUNGER STRIKE IN HERMOSILLO

1. APPROXIMATELY 27 AMERICAN AND MEXICAN PRISONERS AT HERMOSILLO REHABILITATION CENTER ENDED THEIR HUNGER STRIKE AT 0900 DECEMBER 22, AFTER LEARNING VIA TV THAT PRISONERS AT SANTA MARTA AND TAMPICO HAD ENDED THEIR STRIKES EARLIER. CONOFFS VISITED THE HERMOSILLO CENTER SHORTLY THEREAFTER AND FOUND EX - HUNGER STRIKERS IN GENERALLY GOOD HEALTH AND SPIRITS. FINAL HOLDOUTS OF ORIGINAL 87 HUNGER INCLUDED A DOZEN AMERICANS. SUSPENSION OF STRIKE WAS DESCRIBED AS PROVISIONAL, WITH IMPLICATION IT MAY BE RENEWED AFTER YEAR AND HOLIDAYS IF MEXICAN CONGRESS REMAINS DEADLOCKED OVER MODIFICATION OF ART. 85 OF PENAL CODE.

2. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, HERMOSILLO HUNGER STRIKE WAS LAUNCHED IN SUPPORT OF MODIFICATION OF PENAL CODE TO ALLOW PAROLE TO PERSONS SENTENCED FOR NARCOTICS OFFENSES. STRIKE WAS CONDUCTED IN PEACEFUL AND ORDERLY MANNER THROUGHOUT PRISION AUTHORITIES RELOCATED STRIKERS IN GYMNASIUM, MAINTAINED CONSTANT MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE, PROVIDED LIFE SUSTAINING BEVERAGES.

3. NUMBER OF STRIKERS RAPIDLY DROPPED FROM 87 TO LOW 30'S,  
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AND STRIKE WOULD HAVE COLLAPSED SOONER HAD NOT A NUMBER OF MEXICAN CONTINUED TO FAST OUT OF SPIRIT OF "MACHISMO" WHEN A CORE OF AMERICANS REFUSED TO ABANDON IT AS GESTURE OF SOLIDARITY WITH THEIR COLLEAGUES AT SANTA MARTA. ON DEC. 20, FEDERAL DEPUTY CESAR TAPIA QUIJADA MET FOR 2 HOURS WITH STRIKERS, EXPLAINING CONGRESSIONAL PROCEDURES AND

ASSURING THEM THAT THE PROPOSAL WAS UNDER SERIOUS CONSIDERATION  
AND NOT SIDE-DINED AS MANY BELIEVE.  
HE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT THE STRIKE WAS SENDING TO STRENGTHEN  
THE HAND OF THOSE MANY DEPUTIES WHO OPPOSED THE MODIFICATION OF THE  
ARTICLE AND WAS THUS SELF-DEFEATING. ALTHOUGH TAPIA  
WAS WELL RECEIVED, HE DID NOT SUCCED IN CONVENCING  
THE PRISONERS BY THEN ONLY ABOUT THIRTY TO CALL OFF THE  
STRIKE.  
SACKSTEDER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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